

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A transom mounted, air cooled drive system for shallow draft marine watercraft comprising a vertical drive housing having an upper and a lower end and means for closely attaching an air cooled engine perpendicularly to said drive housing, said engine having an output shaft located within said drive housing, a propeller shaft assembly attached to said lower end of said vertical housing opposite said air cooled engine and extending outwardly, a pivotal transom mounting bracket located intermediate said vertical housing, and belt drive means located within said vertical drive housing connecting said air cooled engine and said propeller shaft assembly.~~

A portable drive assembly having means for temporary attachment to the transom of a shallow draft watercraft said portable drive assembly comprising an elongated drive housing enclosing an upper drive assembly a lower driven assembly and a timing belt connecting said upper drive assembly to said lower driven assembly, an engine mounting plate attached externally to said drive housing located adjacent said upper drive assembly perpendicular to said drive housing said lower driven assembly further comprising a propeller shaft partially enclosed within a shaft housing attached to said drive housing adjacent said driven assembly extending a least 12 inches beyond said drive housing and a propeller attached to said propeller shaft.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The portable drive assembly transom mounted, air cooled drive system according to claim 1 wherein said portable drive assembly system further~~

comprising a transmission mounted to said engine mounting plate coupled externally to said upper drive assembly for reversing drive rotation.

3. (Currently Amended) The portable drive assembly ~~transom mounted, air cooled drive system~~ according to claim 1 wherein said drive system further comprises steering and throttle controls.
4. (Currently Amended) The portable drive assembly ~~transom mounted, air cooled drive system~~ according to claim 1 wherein said propeller shaft assembly further comprises a shaft housing having a vertical triangular fin located below said shaft housing, a shaft supported adjacent each end by thrust bearings in a manner whereby said shaft extends beyond each of said thrust bearings and a plurality of internal seals located along said shaft outboard of said thrust bearings.
5. (Currently Amended) The portable drive assembly ~~transom mounted, air cooled drive system~~ according to claim 1 wherein said belt upper drive assembly and said lower driven assembly ~~drive means comprises at least two timing belt type pulleys and a timing belt~~ further include timing pulleys compatible with said timing belt said belt being rotationally unobstructed or acted upon by other bodies.
6. (Currently Amended) A portable outboard engine and drive assembly having means for temporary attachment to the transom of a shallow draft watercraft ~~transom mounted, air cooled drive system for shallow draft marine watercraft~~ comprising:
 - a) a sealed housing containing a timing belt drive assembly ~~having~~ comprising an upper drive pulley assembly and -a lower driven pulley assembly;
 - b) an engine mounting plate attached externally to said sealed housing located adjacent said upper drive pulley assembly perpendicular to said sealed

housing;

c) a propeller shaft partially enclosed within a shaft housing attached to said sealed housing extending from said driven pulley assembly a least 12 inches beyond said sealed housing;

d) a propeller attached to said propeller shaft;

~~—b~~ e) a pivotal means for temporarily attaching said belt drive sealed drive housing to a boat transom; and

~~e~~ f) an air cooled engine attached mounted to said housing engine-mounting plate and connected coupled externally to said upper drive pulley assembly; and.

~~d) a propeller shaft assembly attached to said housing and connected to said lower driven pulley extending outwardly from said housing opposite said air-cooled motor.~~

7. (Canceled) ~~The transom mounted, air-cooled drive system according to claim 6 wherein said belt drive assembly further comprises a belt.~~

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The portable drive assembly transom mounted, air-cooled drive system according to claim 6 wherein said pivotal means comprises both horizontal and vertical pivoting means.~~

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The portable drive assembly transom mounted, air-cooled drive system according to claim 6 wherein said portable drive assembly air-cooled drive system further comprises a transmission connected between said air-cooled engine and said upper drive pulley assembly.~~

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The portable drive assembly transom mounted, air-cooled drive~~

~~system according to claim 6 wherein said propeller shaft assembly further comprises a shaft housing, a propeller shaft supported within said shaft housing by a plurality of thrust bearings and sealed seals at each end of said shaft housing with a plurality of shaft seals.~~

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ The portable drive assembly transom mounted, air-cooled drive system according to claim 6 wherein said propeller shaft assembly is in access of 18 inches in length.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ portable drive assembly transom mounted, air-cooled drive system according to claim 10 wherein said propeller shaft assembly further comprises a rudder fin extending below said shaft housing.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ method of driving a small watercraft in very shallow water comprising the steps of:

a) attaching a portable drive assembly having means for temporary attachment to the transom of a shallow draft watercraft said portable drive assembly comprising an elongated drive housing enclosing an upper drive assembly, a lower driven assembly and a timing belt connecting said upper drive assembly to said lower driven assembly, an engine mounting plate attached externally to said drive housing located adjacent said upper drive assembly perpendicular to said drive housing, said lower driven assembly further comprising a propeller shaft partially enclosed within a shaft housing attached to said drive housing adjacent said driven assembly extending a least 12 inches beyond said drive housing, and a propeller attached to said propeller shaft.

~~a) attaching an air-cooled drive system comprising a vertical drive housing having an~~

~~upper and a lower end and means for closely attaching an air cooled engine perpendicularly to said drive housing said engine having an output shaft located within said drive housing, a propeller shaft assembly attached to said lower end of said vertical housing opposite said air cooled engine and extending outwardly, a pivotal transom mounting bracket located intermediate said vertical housing, and belt drive means located within said vertical drive housing connecting said air cooled engine and said propeller shaft assembly; and~~

- b) attaching an air cooled utility engine to said engine mounting plate and coupling said air cooled utility engine to said upper drive assembly; and
- c) adjusting said pivotal transom mounting bracket relative to said transom in a manner whereby said propeller shaft assembly does not extend below the bottom of said watercraft when driving said watercraft.

- 14. (New) The portable drive assembly according to claim 1 further comprising a self contained air cooled utility engine having a horizontal output shaft attached to said engine mounting plate said output shaft coupled to said upper drive assembly.
- 15. (New) The portable drive assembly according to claim 14 wherein said drive housing is water sealed.